

City of Corunna  
Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, March 16, 1998

Present: Weaver, Bendall, Dumond, Dvorak, Reid, Williams.

Absent: Greiger.

Guests: Lisa Hitchcock, City Manager; Tom Svrcek, Director of Public Works; Ron Smith, Treasurer/Assessor; Chief Jeff Hetfield, Fire Department; Chief Mark Hetfield, Police Department; Jackie Leone, Argus Press; Judy Horton; Ken Stewart; Nancy and Bill Runyan; Gary Schooley, Director of Parks & Recreation; Dr. Richard Ball; Richard Sanderson; Drs. James and Kristi Billis; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers by Mayor Weaver at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Bendall moved, Dumond seconded to approve the March 2, 1998 Regular Council Minutes as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Bendall, Dvorak, Dumond, Williams.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Bendall moved, Dumond seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Williams, Bendall, Dumond, Dvorak, Reid.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Bendall moved, Reid seconded to approve the vendor disbursements as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dvorak, Dumond, Williams, Reid, Bendall.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Dr. Richard Ball introduced himself as a Republican candidate for the State House of Representatives.

Bill Runyan advised the front driveway and sidewalk at his business on M-71 was dropping. He asked if the reconstruction project would remedy the situation. Ms. Hitchcock advised the reconstruction resolution was just one step. She further advised there was a meeting scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday with the Michigan Department of Transportation and urged everyone to attend. The meeting was scheduled to help push the reconstruction project through. She also advised the Michigan Department of Transportation has proposed to reconstruct M-71 from the city limits east to the Corunna Avenue corner. Mr. Runyan stated if something was not done, he would have to do something to the area.

Richard Sanderson asked why cold patch was placed on the roadway when it was raining. He stated it was a waste of money. Mr. Svrcek stated the holes had to be filled. Mr. Sanderson suggested waiting until the holes dry out. Mayor Weaver thanked Mr. Sanderson and informed him the situation would be taken under advisement.

Judy Horton asked council if they had any ticket money to turn in. Council advised her they did not.

APPOINTMENTS TO CHARTER COMMISSION: Dumond moved, Bendall seconded to appoint Janeene Cenkush, Jan Scott, and Stephen Corey to the Charter Commission.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dumond, Williams, Dvorak, Bendall, Reid.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

PRESENTATION BY DR. JAMES BILLIS: Dr. Billis asked council if they wanted him to read his twenty-five minute account of his feelings towards the city. Councilperson Dumond stated he would like to read and study the information presented. Dr. Billis advised he could skip through the information, but the impact would be lost. He further advised the information was the voice of his patients and his own opinion. Councilperson Williams asked Dr. Billis if his ideas would put life back into the city, and if he had ways to accomplish them. Dr. Billis advised yes, he had very precise ways. Mayor Weaver asked if anyone had any questions for Dr. Billis. Councilperson Bendall advised she would like to read the information. Mayor Weaver asked Dr. Billis if it was possible for him to come back to review the information he presented. Mayor Weaver stated Dr. Billis has put a lot of effort into his information and should be commended.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION URGING RECONSTRUCTION OF M-71: Mayor Weaver read the resolution urging the reconstruction of M-71. Williams moved, Bendall seconded to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE RECONSTRUCTION  
OF THE M-71 HIGHWAY

WHEREAS, the reconstruction of M-71 is a necessity since this area detracts from the appearance of the city's downtown and residential districts; and

WHEREAS, the design of the intersection at the corner of Shiawassee Street (M-71) and Corunna Avenue causes a safety factor to pedestrians at that corner's school crosswalk; and

WHEREAS, the curbs and gutters on M-71 are extremely poor, which constitutes not only a safety hazard to pedestrians, but a problem with drainage as well; and

THEREFORE, the City of Corunna is requesting the Michigan Department of Transportation to reconstruct the M-71 highway, which passes through the City of Corunna.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Dvorak, Williams, Bendall, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER MOTION REGARDING COOPERATION WITH SHIAWASSEE COUNTY:

Councilperson Dumond stated people around town including county people are saying Corunna does not want the county in the city and that is not true. He further stated he would like to see the county let Corunna in on their planning, design, and determination. Councilperson Williams advised the motion would take care of it. Bendall moved, Dvorak seconded to offer support and participation to the Shiawassee County Commissioners and their Facilities Task Force in working towards a solution to their facilities needs through the Downtown Development Authority and City Council. Councilperson Dumond stated the Planning Commission should be included in the motion. Mayor Weaver advised an amendment to the motion would be in order. Bendall moved, Dvorak seconded to amend the motion to include the Planning Commission.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Reid, Dumond, Williams, Dvorak.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

Mayor Weaver advised the amended motion would read “to offer support and participation to the Shiawassee County Commissioners and their Facilities Task Force in working towards a solution to their facilities needs through the Downtown Development Authority, City Council and Planning Commission.”

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Reid, Dumond, Williams, Dvorak.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

PRE-COUNCIL: Councilperson Bendall suggested preparing proclamations for two state winners – Jeff Pangborn for wrestling and Matt Raines for swimming. Mayor Weaver suggested asking these two men to attend the next council meeting to receive their recognition.

Councilperson Dumond asked if the Michigan Municipal League Region IV meeting moves from city to city each year. Ms. Hitchcock stated yes, one year the meeting was held in Mt. Pleasant. Mayor Weaver asked if anyone could attend this year’s meeting. Councilperson Dumond advised the letter received from the Michigan Municipal League states further information will be forthcoming. Mayor Weaver suggested asking members of the D.D.A. to attend if they are interested. He asked if the city would pick up traveling expenses for them. Councilperson Williams advised he would be able to attend the Region IV meeting in Au Gres. He further advised people who would be interested in attending could car pool.

Lisa Hitchcock updated council on the playscape project. She advised the wood for the playscape has been ordered. Volunteers and tools are still needed.

Mayor Weaver updated council on the fireworks project. He advised the five heads of government have gotten together and have named their group the Mid-Shiawassee Initiative. He further advised the Argus Press has agreed to work with the group with fundraising details. He also advised Team 21 is very happy the group is working together.

Ms. Hitchcock updated council on the Webster-Davis house move. She advised the log cabin was in pretty good shape once they got underneath it. She further advised the house move should be within the projected budget. Councilperson Bendall asked if there was a projected date for moving the house. Ms. Hitchcock advised the actual move would be up to the mover.

ADJOURN: Dumond moved, Bendall seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Bendall, Dvorak, Dumond, Williams.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 7:50 p.m.

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AVERY WEAVER, MAYOR

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YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK